AMG-18 Federation Management Technical Exchange

Background - Technical Exchanges

- HLA evolution is based on feedback from users
- Important to establish a mechanism for capturing user experiences in areas of specific interest
 - Technical exchanges are a mechanism to identify and explore potential issues
 - Share information on plans and results of issue investigations
 - Results are reported back to the AMG

Federation Management Technical Exchanges

- Third in series of technical exchange in federation management
 - First focused on issues of linking federations and federates with multiple connections to the RTI
 - Second focused on management object model and its use
- This technical exchange revisited the topics of the first technical exchange
 - To review progress to date based on work in progress

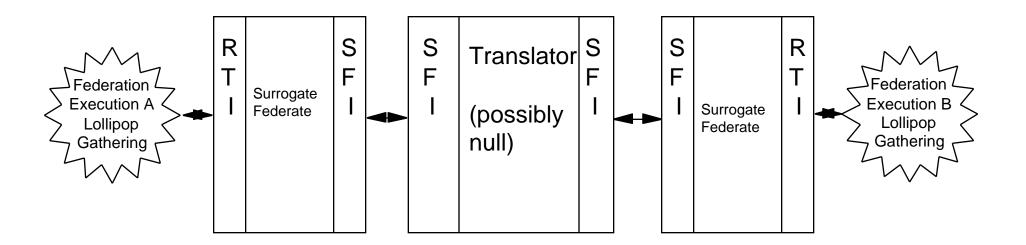
Federation Management technical Exchange

- Held on 24 March, 1997 at DMSO
- ~ 20 participants
- Two topics
 - Bridge federate
 - SEI presentation on functional analysis in progress (Reed Little)
 - Federates with multiple links to the RTI
 - Two examples
 - CCTT HLA prototype experience (Chris Bouwens)
 - SAF/TAOS federate in STOW federation (Paul Birkel)

Bridge Federate

- Bridge federate is a
 - Federate which participates in two federation executions and hence 'bridges' the two
- Uses of a bridge federate
 - Any multi "execution" exercises
 - Linking federation executions operating at different security levels
 - Linking executions using different RTI implementations
 - Combine federations with different time mechanisms

Notional Bridge Architecture



Bridge Federate Functional Analysis Status

- Beginning with two federation execution example
- Use case approach based on I/F Spec service classes
 - Employed to determine Surrogate Federate and SFI requirements
 - In progress, first pass through IF spec expected by end of April
 - Update on progress planned for next federation technical exchange (29 April)
 - results may suggest IF Spec or MOM additions or changes
- Currently documented in stylized English
 - changing to event traces (suggested by SAIC)
- Bridge federate analysis will provide basis for understanding requirements for 'guard federate' in security architecture (special case of bridge federate)
- Plans to follow functional analysis with prototype development to exercise bridge federate in different federation configurations (CCTT, MoDSAF, EAGLE candidate participants)

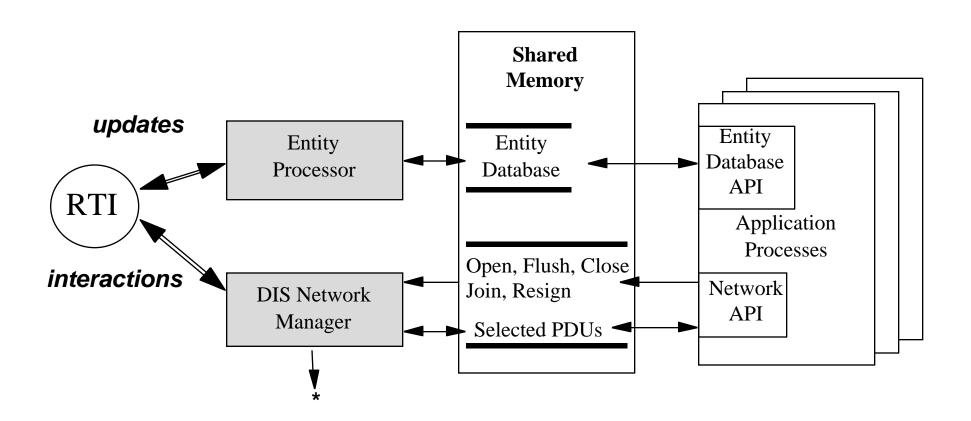
Intercommunication Messages

- request attribute ownership transfer (modeling execution object id, domestic string version of attribute, user tag)
- transfer attribute ownership approved (modeling execution object id, domestic string version of attribute, user tag)
- transfer attribute ownership denied (modeling execution object id, domestic string version of attribute, user tag)
- echo pause (label)
- echo-pause achieved (label)
- echo resume
- echo-resume achieved
- echo save (label)
- echo-save succeeded
- echo-save failed
- echo restore (label)
- echo-restore succeeded (label)
- echo-restore failed (label)
- echo discover object (modeling execution object id, domestic string version of object class, time, user_tag,
- originating execution copy of event retraction handle)
- echo attribute values update (modeling execution object id, (attribute name/value pair list with domestic string version of attribute names), time, user_tag, originating execution copy of event retraction handle)

Federates with Multiple Connections to the RTI

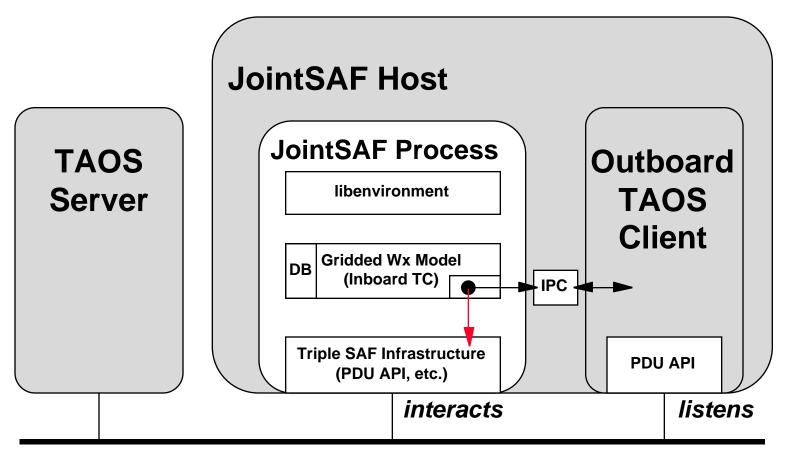
- Two working examples presented
 - CCTT-SAF prototype used in PPF
 - SAF-TAOS federate developed for STOW federation
- Both examples
 - Use current HLA IF specification satisfactorily
 - Each connection to the RTI implements federation join/declaration functionality
 - Are entirely 'realtime' (use receive order, not TSO)
 - Partition interface functionality between connections
 - SAF TAOS, one connection only listens, the other interacts
 - CCTT SAT, one connection handles interactions, the other attribute updates

CCTT HLA Prototype Architecture



^{*} DIS connection in the prototype not shown here

SAF/TAOS Federate



Federates with Multiple Connections

- Raise issues with respect to definitions
 - Federates vs. RTI connections
 - Multiple connection federates or composite federates
 - Physical vs. logical federates
- Too few examples to generally address these issues very well
- Solicit input from AMG members and others to identify other examples of such configurations
 - Actual implementations
 - Plans for implementations
- Contact Reed Little (Little@sei.cmu.edu) or Rosemary Hsu (rhsu@dmso.mil)

Next Steps

- Next federation management technical exchange scheduled for 29 April at DMSO
- Topics include
 - Bridge federate functional analysis results
 - Update on MoM applications
 - Testing support (GTRI)
 - Federation Management Tools (FMT) (AEgis)
 - Other users?
 - Approaches to handling 'bulky' FOM data (e.g., videoteleconferencing or voice) via FOM tokens (MRCI)
- Other inputs requested on federates with multiple connections and on definitions